

4 Keys to Success

# PREPARATION FOR BEAD BUILD- OUT

# MEET THE PANEL

## **The moderators:**

- Terry Blanc, Sr. Manager, Utility Asset Management, Portland General Electric
- Glen Williams, Operations Manager, K&B Technical Solutions

## **The pole owners:**

- Tanner Bertsch, Joint Use Operations Manager, Portland General Electric
- Jason Nemjo, Joint Utilities Specialist, Clark Public Utilities
- Lisa Walker, Director, Distribution Support, PacifiCorp

## **The licensee:**

- Todd Hurd, Network Engineer, Sherwood Broadband

## **The consultants/vendors:**

- Glen Williams, Operations Manager, K&B Technical Solutions
- Chris Barley, President, Oregon Aerial Construction



# BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS AND DEPLOYMENT (BEAD)

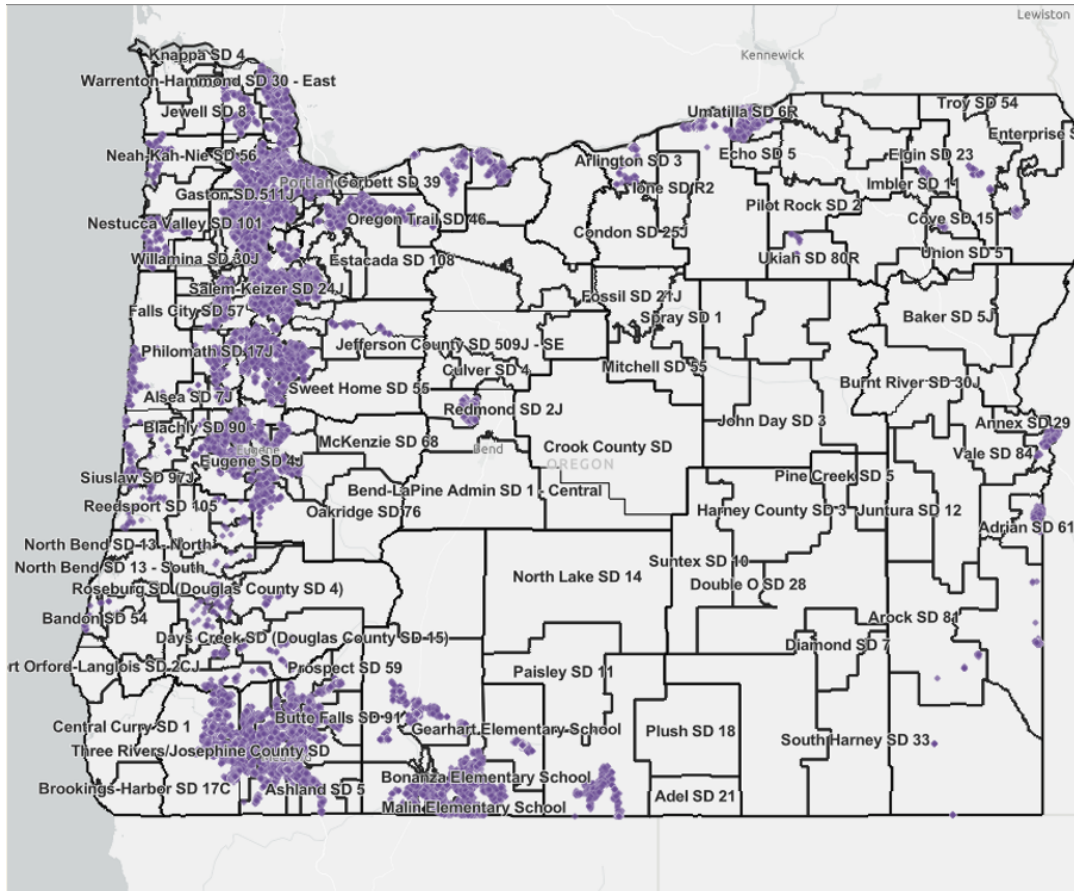
*“OREGON WILL ACHIEVE  
100% BROADBAND  
COVERAGE IN BEAD-  
ELIGIBLE LOCATIONS WITH  
19 AWARDEES AND 313  
TOTAL PROJECTS”*

- The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has approved **Oregon's Final Proposal** for the federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program; this **approval** will invest **\$689 million** to expand affordable, high-speed, and reliable internet service across the state
  - 52.45% Fiber
  - 46.47 Satellite
  - 1.08 Wireless
- The initiative is expected to connect **104,654** unserved and underserved households, healthcare facilities, and businesses, *with a strong focus on rural communities, tribal lands, and other historically underserved areas*
- **In Oregon**, approved projects will span **36** counties and **7** of the **9** federally recognized tribes, covering **212** District Grant Areas, and supporting **313** broadband deployment projects statewide
- View all broadband-eligible locations and check your address on the [Oregon BEAD District Grant Area tool](#)



# OREGON BEAD RECIPIENTS, FIBER

- Alyrica Networks
- Astound
- Blue Mountain
- Columbia County
- Comcast Cable
- Consumers Power Inc.
- Douglas Services
- E4 Connect
- Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
- Gilliam County
- Hood River Electric & Internet Co-op
- Hunter Communications
- Northwest Fiber, LLC
- Pioneer Connect
- QualityLife Intergovernmental Agency
- Siuslaw Broadband, LLC
- Stimulus Technologies of Oregon, LLC
- Windwave Communications



Source: [Bead District Grant Area Tool](#), filtered to locations where fiber will be installed



# THE KEYS TO SUCCESS



## Pre-Engineering

- Grant application and award
- Identify and understand all applicable permitting processes
- Define project scope, schedule and budget



## Permitting & Design

- Project walk-through with all parties
- Identify areas of concern; joint field meets to facilitate solutions



## Construction

- Pre-construction meet
- QC early and often
- Standing coordination meets; refine workflows and resolve issues as they arise



## You're an Operator now!

- Tracking and managing safety infractions, establishing an inspection program, pole transfers
- Emergency management





# **KEY 1: ESTABLISH PROJECT SCOPE, SCHEDULE AND BUDGET**



## **Grant approval process**

Know your grant's requirements!  
Federal grant requirements may differ from other types of grants

*Grant due dates* could inform heavily on the project schedule



## **Pre-engineering**

Know your regulatory, NESC and other applicable safety regulations and rules

Identify and understand jurisdictional ordinances, rules that may apply

Obtain and learn applicable pole owner standards

Identify aerial and underground segments

Drive out potential routes, understand potential trouble areas



## **Vet your vendors carefully**

Pre-bid kick-off

Design, engineering and permitting services

Prior experience with this type of project and a working understanding of the pole owners and jurisdictions that would be involved

Ability to complete comm. to comm. make-ready work



# KEY 2: PERMITTING WITH CONFIDENCE



**Oregon's  
Division 28:  
Pole and  
Conduit  
Attachments**



**Project scope walk-through, areas of concern: pole owners, 3rd party attachers, vendors, jurisdiction - Tanner**

Route feasibility  
Expensive poles, jointly-owned poles, poles to avoid



**Determine loaded costs for certain tasks like midset poles and pole replacements. This will be beneficial for financial and budgetary decisions on the fly**

Consider establishing a draw down account to keep project on schedule



**Negotiate a mutually agreeable permit application process with pole owner; joint field meets could assist with this**

High-volume agreement



**Meet with 3<sup>rd</sup> parties and request permission to complete make ready during construction. Offer to ensure pole is 100% compliant after work is complete**



**Identify permitting entities and begin engagement early. Begin permitting on long lead time permits: Environmental permits, BPA permits, railroads, etc.**





## **KEY 3: “THE GOAL IS ‘FIRST TIME QUALITY’” -TERRY BLANC**

- Pre-construction meet: pole owner inspection, comm. construction contractor meet, pole owner field operations
- Identify all the groups doing installations, separate crews may be responsible for different aspects of the construction process
- Warranties
- Pole owners, QC early and often
  - Set a mutually agreed upon cadence for post-inspections through the conclusion of project
  - Correct any misalignments, issues as they arise (i.e. within 1 week of install)
  - Subcontractors



- **Oregon's Division 24: Safety Standards - Lisa**
  - Ongoing Maintenance - NESC Rule 012A
- Establishing an inspection program
- Tracking and managing safety infractions and non-conformances
  - Correction timeframes
  - Plans of Correction (outlined in Division 28)
  - High Fire Risk Zone Safety Standards
  - Sanctions (outlined in Division 28)
- Corrective maintenance - **Jason**
- Pole transfers
- Emergency management
  - Contact information, visible from the ground *without* an optical aid
  - Car-hit poles
  - Storm restoration
- Budgeting

# **KEY 4:** **ONGOING** **MAINTENANCE**





# **TAKEAWAYS: THE BLUEPRINT TO BEING A WORLD-CLASS OPERATOR**

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**Don't be afraid to reach out**

- Pole owners
- Safety Staff
- OJUA



**Set yourself up for success – first time quality**



**Be responsive**



**Stay involved!**

- OJUA
- Western Energy Institute, annual joint use conference





**QUESTIONS?**

